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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/031,351	01/17/2002	Markus Henneken	ZAHFRI P400US	2560

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EXAMINER

JACKSON, ANDRE K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2856

DATE MAILED: 11/06/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/031,351

Applicant(s)

HENNEKEN, MARKUS

Examiner

Andre' K. Jackson

Art Unit

2856

- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address -

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 8-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 8-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

On page 1, line 17 "fo" should be --for--.

On page 1, line 28 "fo" should be --for--.

On page 2, line 11 "in put" should be --input--.

On page 3, line 11 "fo" should be --for--.

On page 4, line 2 "losing" should be --closing--.

Appropriate correction is required.

3. A substitute specification in proper idiomatic English and in compliance with 37 CFR 1.52(a) and (b) is required. The substitute specification filed must be accompanied by a statement that it contains no new matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claim 14 recites the limitation "shifting elements" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
6. Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claim 1, claim 1 recites on line 5 a "torque-transmitting hub". On page 3, lines 13 and 14 it is referred to as a "torque measuring hub". Does this hub transmit signals or measure signals.

Regarding claim 14, the claim recites that the shifting elements tested remain closed, however, in claim 1 there is no indication that the elements are opened or closed.

Correction and or clarification are needed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 8-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McKenzie et al. (5737979) in view of Gierer (6155948).

Regarding claim 8, McKenzie et al. discloses a "Method of calibrating clutches in a transmission" which has an input shaft (22) of the transmission that is connected with a driving source (18) which produces preset rotational speeds and shifting elements being tested when the output shaft is blocked with an input rotational speed which supplies, with hydraulic pressure, the pressure setting elements for shift elements. What is not disclosed by McKenzie et al. is the output shaft of the transmission being connected with a stationary torque-transmitting hub. However, Gierer discloses a "Method of determining the parameters of an automatic transmission" which has an output shaft of the transmission being connected with a stationary torque-transmitting hub (Figure 1). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify McKenzie et al. to include an output shaft of the transmission being connected with a stationary torque-transmitting hub as taught by Gierer since the artisan would want to know the torque at the output.

Regarding claim 9, McKenzie et al. discloses where the shifting element slip tends towards zero (Column 7, lines 1-8).

Regarding claim 10, McKenzie et al. discloses the step of using the hysteresis of the threshold between opening and closing of the shifting element as characteristic quantity (Column 5, lines 46-53).

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Regarding claim 11, McKenzie et al. discloses the step of using the slip rotational speed of the shifting element as the characteristic quantity (Column 4, lines 9-22).

Regarding claim 12, McKenzie et al. discloses the step of using the torque transmitted to the hub as the characteristic quantity (Column 2, lines 45-50).

Regarding claim 13, McKenzie et al. discloses the step of using the time needed to shift a shifting element with positive engagement as the characteristic quantity (Column 3, line 35).

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andre' K. Jackson whose telephone number is (703) 305-1522. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. 7AM-4PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hezron Williams can be reached on (703) 305-4705. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are N/A for regular communications and N/A for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.

Application/Control Number: 10/031,351
Art Unit: 2856

A.J.

A.J.
October 31, 2002

Hezron Williams

HEZRON WILLIAMS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800